

BLACKFEET NATION

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February 19, 2021

To; Ms. Jeanette Hanna, Deputy Bureau Director
Mr. Anthony Riley, Acting Chief Division
Mr. James Henry, Division Chief

CRRSA Use of Funds

From: George Kipp IV, Blackfeet Manpower Director

CC: Kenneth A. LeMieux, Specialist/Trainer/AOTR

RE: CRRSA use of Funds

Blackfeet Tribe operating under 477 Plan will provide the following services in accordance with the Blackfeet Tribes 477 approved plan and policies as applicable.

Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)

The Blackfeet Tribe does plan to use the CRRSA funds to provide child care services including, but not limited to; Childcare subsidy assistance to health care sector employees, Emergency responders, Sanitation workers, Farm and other food service workers, and/or other workers deemed essential or frontline during the response to coronavirus. Income guidelines for families in these categories during the COVID-19 pandemic will not be applied and co-payments will be waived for this subgroup of families during the pandemic in accordance with our approved plan.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Blackfeet Tribe's childcare providers will be paid using the CRRSA funding for children that are enrolled to sustain their childcare and to hold spots for children. Providers will be paid regardless of attendance and will be considered to have guaranteed spots for all children in accordance with our approved plan.

Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

The Blackfeet Tribe 477 Program will use the CRRSA funds to provide resources for the following, but not limited to:

Resources

The Blackfeet Tribe 477 program will assist providers in obtaining necessary provider trainings by providing them with iPads for their training needs. Each provider will receive a stipend for all trainings completed. Purchase curriculums that can be used in the homes and centers.

Developmental screening assessment tools for homes and centers. The Blackfeet 477 Program will pay for online classes and books for providers to upgrade their skills in Early Childhood Development.

Supplies

The Blackfeet Tribe 477 program will purchase supplies that would include PPE supplies, thermometers, hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies, disposable gloves and other supplies as needed.

The Blackfeet Tribe 477 program will purchase a cargo trailer to deliver PPE supplies, Educational Supplies and other supplies that may be needed for Childcare.

Technical assistance to childcare providers to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies in line with the guidance from the State of Montana and local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Blackfeet Tribe 477 program will purchase the necessary appliances for health and safety of the children, such as washers and dryers, heating and cooling systems, generators in case of outages, air purifiers, and sanitation stations. The Blackfeet Tribe 477 program will work with providers on replacing broken toys and making sure that they have enough toys to rotate to allow for sanitation.

Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to stabilize Child Care Providers

The Blackfeet Tribe 477 program will use CRRSA funds to, but are not limited to: support the stability of the Childcare sector to help child care providers (program facilities and workforce) pay for increased operating expenses during the COVID19 public health emergency.

The Blackfeet Tribe 477 program will provide stipends once a month to all Childcare providers (homes and Center) That will be applied to their payments once a month to assist them with the increase costs of groceries, gas, supplies, until the pandemic is over or until funds are expended.

The program will follow the approved plan and any approved tribal policy that is applicable.

Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

The Blackfeet Tribe 477 program will follow their approved plan and policy and procedures in providing services to CCDF eligible providers by assisting them with training, PPE supplies, art and craft supplies or other needs that fall under the 477 plan.

Timothy Davis, Blackfeet Tribal Chairman

/s/

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